

Letter of Agreement

The National Response Plan (NRP) is an all-discipline, all-hazards plan that establishes a single, comprehensive framework for the management of domestic incidents. It provides the structure and mechanisms for the coordination of Federal support to State, local, and tribal incident managers and for exercising direct Federal authorities and responsibilities. The NRP assists in the important homeland security mission of preventing terrorist attacks within the United States; reducing the vulnerability to all natural and manmade hazards; and minimizing the damage and assisting in the recovery from any type of incident that occurs.

By signing this letter of agreement, Federal departments and agencies and other organizations commit to:

- Supporting NRP concepts, processes, and structures and carrying out their assigned functional responsibilities to ensure effective and efficient incident management, including designating representatives to staff interagency coordinating structures, as required;
- Agreeing to the terms and conditions, as if separately signed, in the “Memorandum of Agreement: Mutual Aid for Incidents of National Significance (non-Stafford Act),” set forth in the Financial Management Support Annex, Attachment 3, December 2004, in the NRP (this provision is applicable only to Federal departments and agencies);
- Providing cooperation, resources, and support to the Secretary of Homeland Security in the implementation of the NRP, as appropriate and consistent with their own authorities and responsibilities;
- Cooperating with appropriate Federal incident management leadership including the Principal Federal Official, Federal Coordinating Officer, and Federal Resource Coordinator, as appropriate and consistent with their own authorities and responsibilities, in order to enable effective and efficient incident management;
- Modifying existing interagency and agency incident management and emergency response plans to facilitate compliance with the NRP;
- Forming and maintaining incident management partnerships with State, local, tribal, and regional entities, the private sector, and nongovernmental organizations;
- Utilizing department- and agency-specific authorities, resources, and programs to facilitate incident management activities in accordance with the NRP; and
- Developing, exercising, and refining headquarters and regional capabilities to ensure sustained operational readiness in support of the NRP.

Signatory departments and agencies follow.